

WEST STREET SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: October 28, 2015

Location: Town of Granby Senior Center

Members Present: Mark Bail, Chair of the West Street School Building Committee
Joe Rokowski, Vice Chair, West Street Building Committee
Deborah Barthelette, Principal, West Street Elementary School
Jennifer Fraser-Champagne, Principal East Meadow School
Emre Evren, Granby School Committee Member
Judith Houle, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Andrea Kennedy, West Street Building Committee Member
John Libera, Chair of the Granby Finance Committee
Chris Martin, Town Administrator
Jim Morrissey, West Street Building Committee Member
Lynn Snopek-Mercier, West Street Building Committee Member

Absent: Jim Pietras, Granby School Committee Member
Ken Scully, Director of Maintenance, Granby Public Schools

Also in attendance: Alan Minkus, Colliers International
Helen Fantini, Jones Whitsett Architects (JWA)
Kristian Whitsett, Jones Whitsett Architects (JWA)
Lillian Camus

Mark Bail called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Approval of May 13, 2015 minutes

Approval of the May 13 minutes was postponed.

Approval of September 24, 2015 minutes

Mark Bail noted a change that was made to the September 24 minutes which corrected the date of the May meeting minutes to be approved.

Motion was made by Judith Houle and seconded by Jennifer Fraser-Champagne to approve the September 24, 2015 minutes as amended. The September 24, 2015 minutes were approved unanimously as amended. Chris Martin abstained.

Colliers - Schedule Update

Alan Minkus reviewed the project schedule update and discussed the outcome of the October 20th meeting with the project estimators. The estimators came back with adjusted estimate and will need a little more time to refine the Schematic Design estimates. We are still aiming for a December 1 submission to the MSBA for their January 27 Board of Director's meeting. If we miss the December 1st submission, the next submission date is February 11th with a March 30th board meeting.

The extra time for the estimators is to make sure we get the numbers in line with what we had already estimated. The estimators are going back to review such things as items ineligible to be reimbursed by the MSBA. We are working on a schematic design now which allows the estimators to get into unit pricing for each item in the plan. We were working with historical numbers before. The current numbers we have now for the new construction are trending much higher than the feasibility study estimate.

Jim Morrissey asked if the Committee would receive a line item estimate so they can go over it by item. Alan Minkus responded affirmatively. This information will be sent to Chris Martin for distribution.

John Libera asked if the Committee would receive the reconciled estimate before the next meeting so they can review it before the meeting. Alan Minkus responded affirmatively. This information will be sent to Chris Martin for distribution.

Alan Minkus stated he is confident we can make the December 1 submission date for Schematic Design pending any major changes.

JWA – Schematic Design Update

Kristian Whitsett gave an update on the schematic design which included floor plan updates. Items added include a new bathroom, IT closet, literacy closet, and shared space between the new classrooms were brought in a little bit after speaking to the teachers.

Massing – Kristian reviewed a more detailed rendering of the school. He reviewed the modified roof design which was a flat roof for the gym and a less slanted entry roof. Kristian asked the Committee if they had any immediate response to the modified design. Some members expressed their preference for the modified design.

Kristian next reviewed the gym floor plan. The former gym floor plan has a 84' x 50' court. The revised gym floor plan has a 74' x 42' court. He reviewed a sports mode and a performance mode with regard to different uses of the gym.

Mark Bail asked the Committee if there was a consensus as to what type of seating it preferred. The Committee agreed on the smaller court.

John Libera questioned if it would be better to have chairs as opposed to bleacher seats.

Judith Houle noted something else to consider is bleacher maintenance.

Kristian Whitsett will look into how many chairs will fit under the stage.

Helen Fantini reviewed a draft list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for future mailings and meetings the Committee will have with the public. Helen asked the Committee to review the list and send comments to her.

Mark Bail suggested eliminating the third question which listed what other options were studied. He also suggested updating the response to question seven regarding is it the right time to build.

Judith Houle reminded the Committee a full service kitchen will allow other events/meetings to be held with food as opposed to a warming kitchen.

Deborah Barthelette reported that she had toured a new school which has some of the features being discussed for this project. She spoke with some of the teachers who said they did not like the high ceilings with regard to acoustics and noted that the lights went out when still standing as the lights did not detect any movement.

Public Outreach Update

Joe Rokowski reviewed an updated K-6 School Outreach Activities and Plan.

Joe reminded the Committee that money will be needed for the regular mailer and the post card mailer. There would be approximately 2,400 mailers with an estimated \$1,800 total for postage.

Emre Evren asked if there were going to be specific drop points for the brochure. Joe responded there would be but there are no specific locations yet.

Public Service Announcements

Joe noted that additional Public Service Announcements have been recorded and should be posted to the channel 12 or 15.

Upcoming Events

Council on Aging – November 5 at 12:00 noon – Jim Pietras will handle

Lions Club – Jim Pietras will handle

Fall Town Leadership Meeting – Joe is still working on this

Any other business to come before the Committee

None

Next Meeting Date

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn by Judith Houle and seconded by Jennifer Fraser-Champagne.

Approved unanimously and adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Camus
Recording Secretary